

Resolution No. _____, Series 2009

**A RESOLUTION CALLING ATTENTION TO THE PERVASIVE AND LIFE
THREATENING CRIME OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.**

Sponsored by: Councilman David Tandy

WHEREAS, every day in the United States at least three women are murdered by a current or former intimate partner; and

WHEREAS, there is not a typical woman who will be battered because rural and urban women of all religious, ethnic, socio-economic and educational backgrounds, and of varying ages, physical abilities and lifestyles can be affected by domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, intimate partner homicides account for up to half of murdered women every year; and

WHEREAS, over 22 percent of women and 7.4 percent of men surveyed, reported being physically assaulted by a current or former partner in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, family violence is the leading cause of injury to women ages 15 to 44 and the leading cause of female homicides and injury-related deaths during pregnancy; and

WHEREAS, approximately 2.3 million people each year in the United States are raped and/or physically assaulted by a current or former spouse, boyfriend or girlfriend; and

WHEREAS, women who were physically assaulted by an intimate partner averaged 6.9 physical assaults per year by the same partner; and

WHEREAS, approximately 37% of women seeking injury-related treatment in hospital emergency rooms were there because of injuries inflicted by a current or former spouse/partner; and

WHEREAS, women are at an increased risk of harm shortly after separation from an abusive partner; and

WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2005, LMPD recorded 2,958 domestic violence-related offenses in Louisville Metro; and

WHEREAS, according to local police data, each year in Louisville Metro, children are present in approximately 50% of the reported domestic violence incidents; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is more than three times as likely to occur when couples are experiencing high levels of financial strain as when they are experiencing low levels of financial strain; and

WHEREAS, women whose male partners experienced two or more periods of unemployment over a 5-year study were almost three times as likely to be victims of intimate violence as were women whose partners were in stable jobs; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence has a tremendous human cost, and society pays a high price in health care costs, legal costs, and lost productivity as a result of domestic violence; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT (THE COUNCIL) AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Given the devastating and lasting effects domestic violence can have not only on the victims and their families, but the community as a whole, the Louisville Metro Council urges its citizens to be vigilant and alert of such crime and to urge victims they know to obtain the appropriate help so as to end such abuse.

Section 2. This resolution shall take effect upon its passage and approval.

Kathleen J. Herron
Metro Council Clerk

David W. Tandy
President of the Council

Jerry E. Abramson
Mayor

Approved: _____
Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Michael J. O'Connell
Jefferson County Attorney

BY _____
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